



June 21, 2007

Pacific Partnership

“The United States is a Pacific nation, and as such, we share many interests, values and beliefs with our Pacific neighbors. As mariners, we have a tradition of rendering assistance to those in distress on the sea, and Pacific Partnership is a logical extension of these ideals.”

– ADM Robert F. Willard, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Pacific Partnership – A Commitment to Regional Security and Stability

USS Peleliu (LHA 5), a multi-mission amphibious ship, is on a four-month deployment throughout the summer to conduct various medical, dental and civic action programs with host nations in Southeast Asia and Oceania. This humanitarian mission, led by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, shows America’s commitment to the region and to regional security and stability.

Regional Cooperation and Friendship

- The U.S. Navy is working with a dedicated group of volunteers and professionals – including host nation and partner nation medical personnel; non-governmental organizations (NGOs); U.S. Navy, Army and Air Force healthcare providers; and construction battalion personnel.
- During Pacific Partnership, the U.S. Navy and its partners will build hospitals and schools, teach preventive medicine, and provide medical and dental assistance in support of participating host nations.
- USS Peleliu will visit Papua New Guinea, the Marshall Islands, the Philippines, Vietnam, and the Solomon Islands from June through September 2007.
- Pacific Partnership is a humanitarian mission by the U.S. military and participating NGOs: Aloha Medical Mission, Project Hope, University of California San Diego Pre-Dental Society, and others.
- Regional partners supporting Pacific Partnership include Australia, Canada, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, and Singapore.

Humanitarian Assistance = Readiness

- Pacific Partnership builds on previous humanitarian assistance and disaster relief deployments such as USS Abraham Lincoln and USS Bonhomme Richard strike groups and USS Essex during tsunami relief operations in 2005, the USS Essex and USS Harpers Ferry during the Philippines mudslide relief operations, and the humanitarian assistance mission of USNS Mercy last year.
- Improving the skill and relationships of everyone involved helps all of us to rapidly and successfully respond to a wide range of situations and future contingencies, including unplanned humanitarian crises that might arise.

Diversity at Work

- The diverse team supporting this mission – on board USS Peleliu, at each host nation, and represented by our regional partners – shows international cooperation, demonstrates maritime interoperability and builds regional stability.
- Many Americans, including many service members and civilians participating in Pacific Partnership, are from the Asia-Pacific region. We have strong ties to family members, friends and co-workers with roots in the region. It is natural for us to be good partners.

To Pacific Partnership volunteers: *“Your service shows the generosity and humanity of people working together to establish a secure and stable tomorrow through our efforts today. You epitomize the commitment and dedication needed to make this world a better place. You bring hope to others and honor to us all.”*

– ADM Robert F. Willard, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet